

# ***Complete Communities***

## ***Kashmere Gardens***

### ***Draft Working Action Plan***



**Houston  
Complete  
Communities**

***Goal: The result or achievement toward which effort is directed; aim; end.***

***Actions: (Projects, Programs, or Policies) Steps to take to reach the goal***

## **ECONOMY AND JOBS**

### ***DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS***

#### **Spark Economic Development**

---

##### ***Attract a new grocery store*** (29 dots, 2 hearts—**HIGH** Priority)

- **ACTION STEPS:** Identify existing incentives and create new incentives, such as tax breaks or other strategies, to attract a grocery store to the neighborhood or create a grocery store co-operative owned by the community, with healthy food and affordable prices, centrally located and outside of flood risk areas

Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Office of Business Opportunity

##### ***Expand retail, restaurant, entertainment, and shopping destinations in the neighborhood*** (22 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- **ACTION STEPS:** Develop incentives to attract new businesses to major corridors, such as Lockwood Drive and Liberty Road, including retail spaces, pharmacy, restaurants, entertainment, bank, coffee shop and internet café; Advocate for walkable developments

Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Office of Business Opportunity

#### **Provide Job Training and Create New Jobs**

---

##### ***Expand workforce development opportunities*** (15 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- **ACTION STEPS:** Expand access to job-training programs, including technical, vocational and career development (i.e. welding, pipe fitting, construction, nursing, HVAC, auto mechanics, beauty/barber, etc.); Provide daycare with job training

Potential Partners: SER Jobs, Hire Houston Youth

##### ***Support local hiring*** (10 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- **ACTION STEPS:** Encourage area businesses to hire local, pay a living wage, and be active partners in community change; Advocate for community benefits agreements for publicly subsidized development

- Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Economic Development, HCDD

##### ***Connect youth to jobs*** (New, No Priority)

- **ACTION STEPS:** Develop partnerships between area businesses and the Barbara Jordan Career Center to connect youth to job opportunities; Organize a youth job fair

- Potential Partners: Barbara Jordan Career Center, Hire Houston Youth

---

## Promote and Grow the Local Economy

---

### ***Develop a small business resource and technology center*** (11 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Prioritize and create partnerships to provide workshops, technical assistance, and other support programs for area small business owners and entrepreneurs, potentially located at Kashmere Multi-Service Center
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Office of Business Opportunity

### ***Create a business incubator, accelerator, or co-op space*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop a business incubator to support local businesses, encourage local co-operatives, and expand entrepreneurship
  - Potential Partners: Area businesses, Office of Business Opportunity, Mayor's Office of Economic Development

### ***Create a local business network*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Support area businesses through the development of a local business network, marketing, and communications strategy
  - Potential Partners: Area businesses, Office of Business Opportunity, Mayor's Office of Economic Development

---

## Improve access to affordable financial services and financial literacy

---

### ***Provide financial literacy courses for youth, adults, and seniors*** (14 dots, 1 heart—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Bring financial literacy programs to the Kashmere Multi-Service Center, and Elementary and Middle Schools in the area, such as "Ready, Set, Bank", "Gen Z Financial Fitness", and "Bank On" to provide credit counseling, loan information, financial success counseling, and other services; Promote and support the Gen Z Financial Fitness program currently being hosted at Kashmere High School
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Gen Z Financial Fitness Program, Capital IDEA Houston, area schools, Controller's Office Bank On program, Houston Public Library, Houston Financial Empowerment Center

### ***Attract a bank or credit union to the neighborhood*** (7 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- Action Steps: Work with the Office of Business Opportunity to explore the potential of attracting a new bank or credit union to the neighborhood; Ensure services are affordable through the Bank On program
  - Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Economic Development, Office of Business Opportunity, Controller's Office Bank On program

---

## HEALTH

### *DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS*

---

#### Expand Access to Healthy Food

##### ***Create a healthy food network*** (12 dots, 2 hearts—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand access to fresh, healthy foods by supporting the capacity, outreach, coordination, communication, and partnerships among the organizations growing and distributing fresh food, including schools and churches, farms, community gardens, and farmers markets; Join the Houston Food System Collaborative sponsored by the Houston Food Bank
  - Potential Partners: Urban Harvest, Target Hunger, Houston Food Bank, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, BakerRipley, LBJ Hospital, Houston Food System Collaborative

##### ***Provide cooking, nutrition, and healthy eating classes and programs*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Create partnerships with area schools, farms, and other agencies to provide cooking, nutrition, and healthy eating classes
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, Diabetes Awareness and Wellness Network (DAWN), Harris County Healthy Living Matters, Houston Health Department

##### ***Increase enrollment in food programs*** (2 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Host open enrollment days for food stamps at area schools or the multi-service center
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, Kashmere Multi-Service Center

---

#### Healthy Living

##### ***Improve access to health services*** (9 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Incentivize the development of healthcare facilities near LBJ Hospital, a “Wellness District”, to provide access to 24-hour urgent care facilities, as well as clinics, doctors, optometrists, dentists, maternal health and mental health resources, including counseling for those with mental illness or victims of abuse
  - Potential Partners: Harris Health, TMC, Legacy Clinic, Avenue 360, MD Anderson, Baylor College of Medicine, BakerRipley, Houston Health Department

##### ***Provide health fairs and wellness events*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with LBJ Hospital and other area health agencies such as Legacy Clinic, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Avenue 360, MD Anderson, Houston Health Department, and Baylor, to address health disparities, including health insurance enrollment; Expand the programs and hours of health and wellness services at Kashmere Multi-Service Center and distribute information of events to the community in multiple forms
  - Potential Partners: Legacy Clinic, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Avenue 360, MD Anderson, Houston Health Dept, Baylor College of Medicine, Diabetes Awareness and Wellness Network (DAWN), Harris County Healthy Living Matters, TMC, Houston Health Department

---

## Healthy Environment

---

***Ensure a clean and healthy environment*** (9 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Address soil contamination near Liberty Road and develop partnerships with TCEQ, the Houston Health Department, and other agencies to monitor air, soil, and water quality adjacent to area industries, such as concrete batch plants
  - Potential Partners: TCEQ, Air Alliance, Houston Health Department, Harris Health, MD Anderson Cancer Center

DRAFT

---

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP and ADVOCACY

### DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS

#### Nurture Civic Leadership and Engagement

---

##### ***Provide leadership training for all generations*** (15 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop partnerships to provide leadership training and mentoring to area civic leaders and youth through the Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council; Utilize LISC's "Train the Trainer" curriculum
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council, Boys and Girls Club, Hope House Houston, Big Brothers Big Sisters, My Brother's Keeper, National Black United Front, LISC, Travis Manion Foundation, SHAPE Community Center

##### ***Organize and host community events and activities*** (10 dots, 1 heart—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work through the Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council to create a broader coalition of civic leaders and organizations to plan and host events and activities, such as National Night Out, bike rides, annual picnics and holiday gatherings, to bring people together of all age groups and cultures
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council, National Night Out, Bike Houston, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Boys and Girls Club

#### Strengthen Community Networks

---

##### ***Improve communication within the community and with the city and other partners*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop community networks (databases) and communication strategies, including flyers at area gathering places, social media, and text notifications, to keep all constituents informed of meetings, events, and programs, including those at Kashmere Multi-Service Center and other local facilities
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council, area schools, churches, civic organizations, Department of Neighborhoods

##### ***Create an outreach campaign and community directory*** (2 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop an outreach campaign and community directory to ensure all residents, no matter of language or ability, are aware of how to access city services and the assistance and educational programs available in the community, including food programs, after school, job training, health, etc.
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, churches, civic organizations, Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council

#### Develop New Partnerships

---

##### ***Organize for Kashmere Gardens to become a comprehensive GO Neighborhood*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with LISC to meet readiness and assessment goals required to become a comprehensive GO Neighborhood; Increase neighborhood participation in this initiative
  - Potential Partners, LISC, Kashmere Gardens SNC, Trinity/Houston Gardens SNC

---

## FLOOD RESILIENCE

### *DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS*

---

#### Community Flood Resilience

##### ***Improve drainage*** (20 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Improve storm drainage systems across the neighborhood; Focus drainage improvements on Cavalcade St., Collingsworth Street, Crane St., Dabney St., George St., Hirsch Rd., Homestead Rd., Legion St., Linn St., Lockwood Dr., Lufkin St., Minden St., Pardee St., Pickfair St., Rand Street, Reid Street, Ryan St.
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Harris County Flood Control District, Mayor's Office of Resilience

##### ***Keep ditches and bayous free of debris*** (16 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Create a community coalition and outreach campaign to advocate for residents to keep ditches clean and report illegal dumping; Partner with the Solid Waste Department to complete a clean-up of all ditches in the community, and with Harris County Flood Control District to clean Hunting Bayou of debris
  - Potential Partners: Solid Waste Management Department, Harris County Flood Control District, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Community-wide ditch repair and maintenance program*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with Houston Public Works to develop a community-wide ditch maintenance, regrading, and repair program
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Harris County Flood Control District

##### ***Project Hunting Advocacy*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Continue to advocate for Hunting Bayou improvements to help mitigate flooding, including railroad bridge projects; Provide amenities at area detention basins
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Harris County Flood Control District

---

#### Green Infrastructure

##### ***Provide incentives and policies to promote green infrastructure*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Implement incentives and policies to promote the development of green infrastructure on private and publicly-owned land including permeable pavement and small detention and retention areas
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston, Mayor's Office of Resilience

##### ***Encourage the use of permeable pavement*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop opportunities to increase the amount of permeable pavement in Kashmere Gardens including parking lots, and commercial and residential lots
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, City of Houston, Mayor's Office of Resilience

##### ***Promote green stormwater infrastructure on vacant lots*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify vacant lots in Kashmere Gardens to provide green infrastructure, including retention; Incentivize private property owners to provide detention and floodable pocket parks on vacant land
  - Potential Partners: Harris County Flood Control District, Houston Public Works, Mayor's Office of Resilience

---

## **Increase community emergency awareness, preparedness, and resilience**

---

### ***Lily Pad/Neighborhood Resilience Hub Program*** (10 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the City of Houston to identify and designate Lily Pad sites in the neighborhood that would provide shelter and services in the case of an emergency, and could provide preparedness and resilience training in advance of an emergency and coordinate recovery after; Potential sites include Harris County Annex (3815 Cavalcade), Tuffly Community Center, Fleming Middle School, Kashmere Gardens Missionary Baptist Church (additional sites were identified, these were preferred) Connect Lily Pad/Neighborhood Resilience Hub to a Digital Support Network
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston Office of Emergency Management, Mayor's Office of Resilience, Harris County, Tuffly Community Center, Fleming Middle School, Kashmere Gardens Missionary Baptist Church

### ***Proactively Prepare for Disasters*** (10 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with FEMA, the City, NGOs, Office of Emergency Management and others to identify and prepare organizations to provide emergency services, shelter, resources, support, and recovery prior to a disaster, including identifying non-profit partners and home repair organizations
  - Potential Partners: FEMA, City of Houston, NGOs, Office of Emergency Management, Transtar, Mayor's Office of Resilience, Mayor's Office of Recovery

### ***Evacuspots*** (9 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Advocate for a program to identify and designate flood and emergency rescue locations, similar to "Evacuspots" in New Orleans
  - Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Mayor's Office of Resilience

### ***Identify high and dry parking locations*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the City of Houston to identify and designate locations for parking of vehicles in advance of flood events
  - Potential Partners: FEMA, City of Houston, NGOs, Office of Emergency Management, Transtar

### ***Create an Emergency Preparation and Evacuation Plan*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop a local evacuation plan and storm preparation program that addresses the needs of all age groups, languages, and abilities; Create an outreach campaign to provide information to all residents (13% / 33)
  - Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Management

### ***Create local CERT Teams (Community Emergency Response Teams)*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work through the Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council to provide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to area civic leaders and others
  - Potential Partners: Mayor's Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security, area churches and civic organizations, Kashmere Super Neighborhood Council

---

***Emergency preparedness outreach campaign*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop and implement an outreach campaign in partnership with the Department of Neighborhoods to encourage residents to sign up for available emergency flood warning alert systems, the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR) for evacuation assistance, and other emergency preparedness systems and alerts; Develop an educational flyer for residents, or notices in water bills, to expand flood and emergency preparedness awareness, including creating an emergency bag, and taking important documents (10% / 25)
  - Potential Partners: Department of Neighborhoods, Harris County Flood Control District, State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry, Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council

***Digital Support Network*** (3 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with LBJ Hospital, first responders, civic leaders, and other agencies to create a digital support network that can be activated in the case of an emergency, including a phone connection that is not subject to outages; The network, locally based, would keep people informed of conditions and connected to one another; The network could also connect to emergency responders; Maintain a list of vulnerable residents to ensure they are assisted first; Designate a Community Emergency Coordinator as a central point of contact before, during, and after a disaster
  - Potential Partners: LBJ Hospital, HPD, Houston Fire Department, area churches, civic organizations, Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood Council



---

## **SAFETY**

### ***DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS***

#### **Strengthen Partnerships to Reduce Crime**

---

##### ***Expand participation in HPD's Positive Interaction Program (PIP)*** (16 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Encourage residents to participate in engagement programs such as the Positive Interaction Program (PIP); Develop quarterly or semi-annual priorities for the neighborhood or submit "action requests" which identify key issues to share with the police; Organize quarterly events such as dinners with government officials, police personnel, first responders and residents to strengthen partnerships and build relationships to ensure the ongoing safety of the community
  - Potential Partners: HPD, Citizen's Police Academy, PIP Program

##### ***Address area crime and safety concerns, including the challenges of drug activities and prostitution*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Increase police patrol, security and visibility, including bike patrol (21% / 48); Address crime hot spots in the neighborhood, particularly drug activities, prostitution, and loitering in areas such as Crane Street, Lockwood Drive, Rand Street, and Cavalcade Street
  - Potential Partners: HPD

##### ***Advocate for additional police patrol*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the City of Houston to advocate for additional funding to increase police patrols in areas with higher crime rates
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston, HPD

##### ***Youth Safety Coalition*** (7 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop and implement a youth safety outreach program, to bring together area youth and law enforcement agencies, and to address youth concerns regarding crime and violence; Expand access to HPD youth programs for teens, including the HPD mentoring program, the Greater Houston Police Athletic League; Create an outreach campaign to encourage area youth to apply to sit on HPD's Youth Police Advisory Council (YPAC)
  - Potential Partners: HPD, Greater Houston Police Athletic League, Kashmere HS

#### **Create Safe Places**

---

##### ***Improve lighting at area parks and bus stops, and along trails and streets*** (16 dots, 1 heart—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with CenterPoint, Houston Parks Board, METRO, and the City of Houston to improve street lighting across the neighborhood, specifically along Hunting Bayou Trails, area parks, and Jensen Drive
  - Potential Partners: CenterPoint, Houston Parks Board, METRO, Houston Parks and Recreation Department

##### ***Strengthen partnerships and expand training to reduce crime*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with LISC to organize Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training sessions to foster safe social spaces in the neighborhood
  - Potential Partners: LISC, HPD

---

***Increase responsiveness to streetlight repair needs*** (2 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop a partnership with CenterPoint to improve responsiveness to reported street light outages and ensure all residents know how to report a street light outage
  - Potential Partners: CenterPoint

***Create a Safety Zone for online transactions*** (1 dot—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with HPD to create safe zones in the neighborhood, such as the Kashmere Multi-Service Center and the Harris County Annex
  - Potential Partners: HPD

---

**Healthy Pets and Safe Streets**

***Address stray animals*** (18 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- Expand BARC's programs and services to address animal welfare across the neighborhood (including livestock) and reducing the number of stray dogs and cats; Create a partnership with Barrio Dogs to develop and implement a Kashmere Gardens-based program
  - Potential Partners: BARC, Barrio Dogs, Kashmere Gardens SNC

***Provide veterinary services*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand access to free or low-cost spay and neuter clinics and veterinary care in the neighborhood
  - Potential Partners: Emancipet, BARC, City Council Representative

---

## HOUSING

### *DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS*

#### **Build New Housing**

---

##### ***Designate priority areas for new housing in Kashmere Gardens*** (17 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Coordinate housing strategies and priorities in Kashmere Gardens with the City of Houston's and Harris County's Housing Studies; Work with the Houston Community Land Trust and the Houston Land Bank to improve housing affordability and access (particularly for those earning 80% of median income or less); Partner with local housing organizations and designers to develop resilient and innovative housing models, particularly within the 100-year floodplain
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Houston Community Land Trust, Houston Land Bank, Harris County Housing and Community Development

##### ***Develop supportive housing*** (8 dots, 1 heart—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify sites and strategies to build supportive housing in the neighborhood, particularly for seniors, the homeless, and those struggling with mental illness or other disabilities
  - Potential Partners: New Hope Housing, City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Houston Land Bank

##### ***New multi-family housing*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work with the City of Houston's Housing and Community Development Department to identify partners, sites, and strategies to build new affordable multi-family housing in Kashmere Gardens, focus on areas near transit and services and amenities
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Houston Land Bank

#### **Prevent Displacement and Grow Homeownership**

---

##### ***Establish a Kashmere Gardens Homestead Preservation District*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the Housing and Community Development Department to explore the use of a Homestead Preservation District, or HPD; HPD's are created to promote the ability of municipalities to increase homeownership, provide affordable housing, and prevent involuntary loss of homesteads owned by low-income and moderate-income homeowners
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department

##### ***Provide rental assistance and support to vulnerable populations*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the Housing and Community Development Department to connect renters, veterans, and vulnerable populations to resources and support, including homeownership education classes, rental assistance, and second chance housing; Address gaps in the Community Re-Entry Network Program through a Beyond Re-Entry initiative providing education, job training, and healthcare services
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Houston Health Department Community Re-Entry Network Program

---

***Provide homeowner education programs*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop a program to assist current homeowners with tax exemptions, wills, inheritance, and other needs to improve financial security; Area churches are potential partners, including Kashmere Gardens Baptist Church, New Mount Calvary, Mt Canaan MBC, St.Lukes, Blue Pleasant, New Loyalty, Kashmere Gardens MBC
  - Potential Partners: Area churches, LISC, Hester House, HCDD

***Expand local capacity to address housing needs*** (1 dot—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Create and support a local community development corporation
  - Potential Partners: LISC, Kashmere Gardens SNC

---

**Hurricane Harvey Housing Recovery**

***Repair Harvey damaged homes*** (16 dots, 1 heart—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand programs to repair housing damaged by Harvey; Improve transparency and communication between FEMA, City of Houston, non-profit housing organizations, and residents that were affected by flooding disasters to provide accurate information about housing programs available, timelines for getting assistance, who qualifies, and the limits of repair assistance
  - Potential Partners: FEMA, City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, The Restoration Team, SBP, All Hands and Hearts, Habitat for Humanity, West Street Recovery, Northeast Houston Responds, Mayor's Office of Recovery

***Provide funding for home elevation*** (9 dots —**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand programs to provide funding for home elevation (including foundation repair)
  - Potential Partners: FEMA, City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Mayor's Office of Resilience, Mayor's Office of Recovery

---

**Home Repair Program**

***Expand home repair programs for seniors and other vulnerable households*** (13 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand the capacity of home repair organizations, or develop a community-based organization, to provide home repair assistance to seniors and other vulnerable households, including weatherization (Texas Weatherization Assistance Program), roof repair, foundation repair, mold remediation , and connect residents to existing home repair programs
  - Potential Partners: Texas Weatherization Assistance Program, Housing and Community Development Department

---

## NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

### *DRAFT Goals and Actions*

#### **Arts in the Gardens**

---

##### ***Expand arts and cultural programming for people of all ages*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with area schools, civic leaders, organizations, the City, and others to develop art classes that contribute to the public art strategies, including painting, quilting, drawing, etc.; Provide and support heritage and history based cultural events and programs such as movie nights, music concerts, and art car parades  
Potential Partners: Area schools, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Houston Arts Alliance, LISC Small Grants Projects, Harris County Department of Education, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, TSU, UH School of Art

##### ***Create an "Arts in the Gardens" Plan*** (11 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop an "Arts in the Gardens" plan to program events and design and install public art at area parks and public spaces that celebrate the neighborhood's history and culture
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, Houston Arts Alliance, LISC Small Grants Program, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, TSU, UH School of Art, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Develop arts and cultural spaces*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify and re-develop vacant structures/properties into art and cultural spaces
  - Potential Partners: Housing and Community Development Department, Houston Arts Alliance, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, TSU, UH School of Art, Kashmere Gardens SNC

#### **Work Together to Create a Beautiful Community**

---

##### ***End Illegal Dumping*** (22 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Address illegal dumping in hotspot areas such as Liberty Road (along train track), Majestic Street, Lockwood Drive, Crane Street, Pardee Street, Cavalcade, Lavender Street, Bennington Street, and 610 (along Hunting Bayou); Partner with City Council member to fund and install security cameras at areas where dumping is concentrated
  - Potential Partners: Adopt-a-Block, Solid Waste Management Department

##### ***Eliminate overgrown lots and dangerous buildings*** (12 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with the Department of Neighborhoods to address overgrown vacant lots and dangerous buildings, particularly in hotspot areas such as Crane Street
  - Potential Partners: Department of Neighborhoods

##### ***Kashmere Beautiful Campaign*** (10 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Create a promotional campaign with yard signs and other materials to promote neighborhood responsibility and encourage people to play their part in eliminating trash and dumping
  - Potential Partners: LISC Small Grants Program, Kashmere Gardens SNC, DON

##### ***Maintain utility easements*** (8 dots, 1 veto—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with CenterPoint to ensure trees along utility lines are trimmed and maintained to prevent electricity outages
  - Potential Partners: CenterPoint, Solid Waste Management Department

---

***Organize community cleanups*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Organize and implement community cleanups through partnerships with churches, civic organizations, schools, and others; build on existing programs such as Trash Bash!, Keep Houston Beautiful, Adopt-a-Block, and Back to School clean up events
  - Potential Partners: Area churches, area civic organizations, area schools, area residents, Solid Waste Management Department, DON, Keep Houston Beautiful

---

**Great Streets and Places**

***Enhance Streetscaping*** (11 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Improve streetscaping across the neighborhood with a focus on Lockwood Drive, Cavalcade Street, Bennington Street, Crane Street, and area esplanades; Partner with Trees for Houston and the LBJ Hospital community farm to plant and maintain trees in area esplanades and along highways
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Trees for Houston, LBJ Hospital Community Farm

***Kashmere gateways*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Designate gateways with signage at major thoroughfares such as Lockwood Drive and Cavalcade Street, add and maintain lighting and landscaping at these nodes
  - Potential Partners: LISC Small Grants Program, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs, area civic organizations

---

## **MOBILITY and INFRASTRUCTURE**

### ***DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS***

#### **Expand Mobility and Enhance Transit Amenities**

---

##### ***Develop a light rail or bus rapid transit line on Lockwood Drive*** (14 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with METRO to explore the development of light rail or bus rapid transit along Lockwood Drive
  - Potential Partner: METRO, LINK Houston, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Expand bus shelters, benches, and lighting*** (13 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with METRO to improve amenities at area bus stops, including shelters, benches, and lighting
  - Potential Partner: METRO, LINK Houston, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Bring METRO Community Connector service to the neighborhood*** (11 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with METRO to establish METRO Community Connector service (including late night service) providing door-to-door service to schools, and a loop route that connects the Kashmere Transit Center to the red line light rail
  - Potential Partners: METRO, LINK Houston, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Improve the frequency and reliability of existing bus routes*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with METRO to improve the frequency and reliability of bus service, especially on Lockwood Drive, Cavalcade Street, and Jensen Drive; Address the gap in transit service along Cavalcade Street from Hirsch to Homestead Road
  - Potential Partner: METRO, LINK Houston, Kashmere Gardens SNC

##### ***Promote METRO services*** (2 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand access to information regarding METRO services through multiple means of communication such as flyers at local community facilities and social media
  - Potential Partners: area gathering places, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, METRO

#### **Improve Neighborhood Streets**

---

##### ***Repair aging streets*** (18 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with Houston Public Works to identify priority streets for repaving, including Lockwood Drive, Kelley Street, Jensen Drive, Kriss Street, and Caplin Street
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Texas Department of Transportation

##### ***Provide traffic calming*** (3 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify and address speeding issues along Lockwood Drive, Hirsch Road, Reid Street, King Street, Crane Street, Bennington Street, Majestic Street, Cavalcade Street, and Pardee Street; Add speed bumps near schools
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works

---

## Complete the Sidewalk Network

---

### ***Build new sidewalks*** (9 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with Houston Public Works to complete the neighborhood sidewalk network, focus on areas adjacent to schools, parks, bus stops, and underpasses; Eliminate the sidewalk variance process for new development
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works

### ***Improve sidewalk accessibility*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with Houston Public Works to improve accessibility of area sidewalks for seniors and people with disabilities, with a critical focus on Lockwood Drive and other major neighborhood connectors
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works

### ***Improve existing sidewalks*** (3 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- Actions Steps: Work in partnership with Houston Public Works to improve existing sidewalks and add pedestrian amenities on streets such as Lockwood Drive, Collingsworth Street, Bennington Street, Crane Street, Kelley Street, Lavender Street, Russell Street, Homestead Road, and Rand Street
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works

### ***Enhance and expand pedestrian crosswalks*** (1 dot—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with Houston Public Works to identify locations for new pedestrian crosswalks, including at key intersections such as Kelley Street and Lockwood Drive, McGee Street and Lockwood Drive, and Russell Street and Cavalcade Street
  - Potential Partners: Houston Public Works, Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs

---

## Improve Rail Safety

---

### ***Inventory and improve rail crossings*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify railroad crossings for improved quiet zones and grade separations
  - Potential Partners: Union Pacific, Gulf Coast Rail District, Houston Public Works

---

## Expand the Network of Pedestrian and Bicycle Amenities

---

### ***Expand bike lanes and trails*** (4 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Create new bike routes along high bike-frequented streets such as Creston Drive, King Street, Reid Street, Caplin Street, Linder Street, and Melbourne Street; Complete the hike and bike trails, including planting additional trees along Hunting Bayou and the tributary south of Hutcheson Park and connect to Lyndon B Johnson Hospital
  - Potential Partners: Bike Houston, Houston Parks Board, Houston Public Works, LINK Houston, Texas Department of Transportation

---

## Span the Digital Divide

---

### ***Improve the quality of internet services and providers*** (11 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the City and HISD to explore public wi-fi, including better access at area schools, additional towers, and high-speed fiber
  - Potential Partners: City of Houston, HISD, internet providers



---

**PARKS and COMMUNITY AMENITIES**  
***DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS***

**Great Community Meeting Places**

---

***Engage Kashmere Gardens residents in programming for the new McCrane - Kashmere Gardens Neighborhood Library*** (19 dots, 1 heart—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with the Houston Public Library to ensure the community is engaged in programming of the new library High
  - Potential Partner: Houston Public Library, Kashmere Gardens SNC

***Expand existing sports and outdoor programs at area parks*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Organize and implement additional sports and outdoor programs for children and youth at area parks, including baseball, basketball, volleyball, soccer, swimming, and exercise; Host outdoor activities such as movie nights, gardening, music, dancing, yoga, crafting
  - Potential Partners: Houston Parks and Recreation Department, NEO, Boys and Girls Club, Kashmere Gardens SNC

***Expand recreational and community amenities*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- Develop a recreational or community center in the neighborhood with a gym, swimming pool, and other amenities, similar to Finnigan Park Community Center; Expand or rebuild the existing Multi-Service Center
  - Potential Partners: Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Houston Health Department

***Develop an outdoor classroom and performance space*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with Harris County to develop an outdoor performance space and classroom on vacant lots adjacent to Mickey Leland Memorial Park
  - Potential Partners: Harris County, Houston Parks Board, HISD

**Beautiful Parks**

---

***Maintain and improve area parks*** (7 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Properly maintain area parks and perform monthly checks on lighting, equipment, and landscaping (16% / 41); Partner with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department to identify and prioritize new or improved amenities at area parks, including shade structures, exercise and playground equipment, additional trees (13% / 32)
  - Potential Partners: Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Kashmere Gardens SNC

***Create new neighborhood parks*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Identify areas with high park needs to explore the creation of new parks, including a potential pocket park at end of Pickfair Street.
  - Potential Partners: Houston Parks and Recreation Department: Houston Parks Board

## EDUCATION

### *DRAFT Goals, Projects, and ACTION STEPS*

#### **Support Student Success**

---

##### ***Expand vocational and STEAM (science, technology, arts, and math) curriculum at area schools*** (17 dots—**HIGH** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with HISD and the library to provide vocational training and STEAM (science, technology, arts, and math) programs in area schools
  - Potential Partners: HISD, Houston Public Library

##### ***Expand after school and summer enrichment programs*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with area schools, churches, library, and other agencies to expand after school and summer enrichment programs, including courses in the arts, technology, music, business, cooking, tutoring, college prep, financial literacy, and other life skills
  - Potential Partners: Area schools and churches, Kashmere Multi-Service Center, APC Scholars After-School Program, NEO, Boys and Girls Club, Hope House Houston, Travis Manion Foundation, The Association for the People and the Community, Houston Parks and Recreation Department, Houston Public Library

##### ***Establish computer labs in all community schools*** (8 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with HISD and the City to expand access to computer labs at all area schools
  - Potential Partners: HISD, Mayor's Office of Education

##### ***Expand scholarships and school support*** (7 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with area businesses and industries to fund school support and college scholarships for area students (for example, Union Pacific)
  - Potential Partners: Area businesses, Project GRAD, Workforce Solutions

##### ***Expand "Every Community, Every School" in Kashmere Gardens*** (7 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Expand HISD's "Every Community Every School" wraparound services program to all area schools, the program supports critical issues of students: mental and physical health needs, food insecurity, stable housing, violence, parent incarceration, and things that adversely affect college and career readiness or their ability to learn; Include support services for students with a special focus on clothing, food, and school supply aid. Services are currently available at Kashmere High School
  - Potential Partners: HISD, Houston Health Department

##### ***Provide students with tutors and mentors*** (6 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Develop partnerships with schools, alumni, parents, local businesses, churches and other agencies to provide students with tutors and mentors
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, area businesses, Travis Manion Foundation, Project GRAD, Kashmere High School, Kashmere High School Alumni Organization

---

## Promote Lifelong Learning

---

### ***Expand adult education programs*** (15 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: work in partnership with Kashmere Multi-Service Center and the library to expand adult education programs, including financial literacy, computer literacy, trade and vocational programs, GED and other courses; Provide day care services for parents seeking vocational training and educational programs in the neighborhood
  - Potential Partners: Kashmere Multi-Service Center, Houston Public Library, SER Jobs for Progress, Houston Financial Empowerment Center, Capital IDEA Houston

## Strengthen Area Schools

---

### ***Create a coalition to support area schools*** (10 dots—**MEDIUM** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Strengthen partnerships between parents, teachers, administrators, alumni, area businesses, and community leaders to provide mutual support systems
  - Potential Partners: Area schools, area businesses, area residents, HISD, Mayor's Office of Education

### ***Increase parent and student engagement*** (5 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Partner with area schools to develop an outreach campaign to promote existing resources at area schools and expand parent engagement in support of area schools, including parent-teacher organizations, volunteers in public schools (VIPS), and other leadership positions; Provide support for PTO groups in area schools
  - Potential Partners: HISD, Mayor's Office of Education, area PTO/PTAs

### ***Create joint-use schools*** (3 dots—**LOW** Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with HISD and school administrators to open area schools to community use during out of school hours, utilizing the schools as community centers, providing services and enrichment programs such as classes in trades, crafts and arts; Joint-use schools can also be a safe space for individuals with special needs to enjoy and receive therapeutic services (ex: The Verne Cox Center in Pasadena <https://www.pasadenatx.gov/189/Adaptive-Recreation> )
  - Potential Partners: HISD

### ***Strengthen and expand magnet programs in Kashmere Gardens*** (New, No Priority)

- ACTION STEPS: Work in partnership with HISD to advocate for the expansion of magnet programs at area schools
  - Potential Partners: HISD, Kashmere HS Alumni Organization